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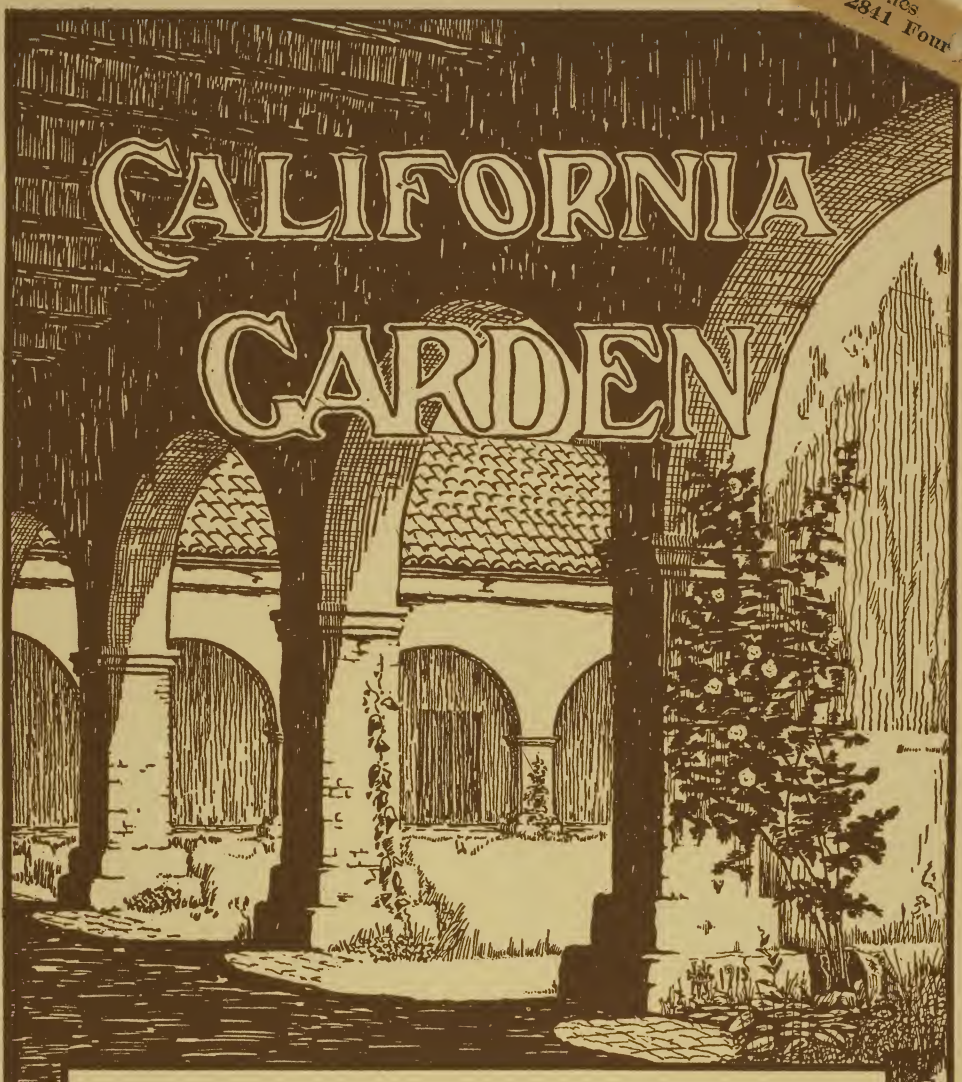
CALIFORNIA
GARDEN

Per Year
One Dollar

July, 1918

Per Copy
Ten Cents

# Dahlia Show
# Sunday, August 18

*California Building, Balboa Park*

Vol 10 – Complete & no. no 9, 8, 10, 11, 12 never printed

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# The California Garden

*Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association*
*One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy*

Vol. 10 POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, JULY, 1918 No. 1

THE new Board of Directors of the San Diego Floral Association in solemn conclave have decreed that The California Garden shall continue to issue another year, its tenth, their reasoning being that through it its members attend the monthly meetings and take part in its activities. Several complimentary letters enclosing renewals helped to the decision. The same old staff has to bear the burden and heat of the issuance at the same old salary, a trifle less than nothing.

Various suggestions coming from diverse sources have had for their goal the putting of this California Garden upon a business basis, whatever that may be, but we have been assured the result would be the earning of its own keep in these expensive days. Personally we have in the past and still refuse to have anything to do with this "putting". We do not regard our connection with the magazine as a business one nor has any one been able to show us how it could be; further, no one has ever been found willing to fill our place unworthily filled as it may be. The Floral Association is certainly not a business organization, its charter specifically stating it is not organized for profit. It exists to serve a community divided against itself over smokestacks and geraniums and it favors the latter which can flourish more generally than the former. How then can its organ be different? Nevertheless a small sum is necessary to buy paper and printing and pay for stamps and the community should pay for these or let the staff go home and attend to their private affairs. This is not a charity to be supported as such. It is worth something to the place or it is nothing, and donations to meet deficits don't meet the case. If six pages of advertising could be signed up for a year's contract the California Garden could go to bed and sleep nights. This means just sixty dollars a month. If we believed that there were not that much appreciation of its presence in San Diego we would gleefully quit without going through the motions of resigning but we do believe that there is; the only thing is to tap it. It is perhaps not the proper editorial role to be saying this but we have before confessed that we are really no editor. We have no blue pencil, no politics, no boss, and so from our unique position we are putting the case. Advertising in the Garden is worth something but strangely that does not seem to us to matter much one way or the other, in which we are opposed by the efficiency advertising expert who has more than once blocked the benevolent intentions of good citizens because the Garden does not measure up to schedule A, and the many demands for complimentary advertising have built up an elaborate trench system of defence. We have steadfastly refused to ask for advertising patronage for some years. We still hold that position but we can recommend that any one who has enjoyed the Garden visits should admit it by taking space for the coming year and keeping it dark from their confidential advertising doctor if they deem it necessary.

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A few days ago we read that the government refused to accept water pumped from Mission Valley for Camp Kearny and now comes a jovial article suggesting that we old residents are to have it as a means of cutting off some of the expense incurred in purchasing water from the Cuyamaca system. We don't like this, as a garden advocate. Mission Valley water is not good for delicate plants and the fact that we used to use it only recalls the hopeless struggles of ferns and other things to stay with us and enjoy our climate.

The whole water question is vital to gardening interests which naturally want good water as cheap as it can be had. Within the bounds of safety use of water should be encouraged; without it this is practically a desert relieved by a seasonal greenness. A great deal of loose talk is cast upon the air anent dry spells and the margin of water storage safety; the usual minimum being placed at three years sup-

ply. When the Otay Dam is completed, and the various Fletcher projects, even such a comparatively dry year as the present or past season rather would run into the reservoir more than the annual consumption and looking back over the rainfall figures there is no justification for anticipating a run of years with so small a fall. Unless we have been grossly deceived Morena Dam holds a two-year supply now. It is not conceivable that nothing will be caught next winter and surely it is better to use the water than to keep it, so that the next winter will see the dam running over.

We don't believe in raising water rates to make extensions of the system. The extension of a water system is as competent to general taxation as anything else and to make a man who is using water pay for this extension just because he does use it is merely modern efficiency gymnastics and if human nature were such as to be trusted it would be a splendid move for the city to provide water free. This latter is merely a dream of course, as under it the city would be flooded from open faucets.

The water coming from Morena is the best possible for a garden. With it to drink many things flourish that less fortunate communities cannot grow at all. Take the maidenhair ferns and the Cape primrose, both of which refuse to live under the most expert care with water to be had north of here (just how far it would be unfair to say). It might be as well to say it is pumped from wells not far from the coast, though further than Mission Valley.

We realize the above is merely one side and one opinion. We may have to pump in Mission Valley but if we do it should be a tacit confession that we cannot get water further back, and then those ranchers in the valley want the water and we hope they will get it.

An element of faith must enter into the consideration of this water question. We know nothing for certain as to future seasons. Within a decade we have had our coldest and hottest day recorded in sixty years but we cannot regulate our conduct and clothes by these. We have faith it will rain just as we have faith we shall wake up tomorrow morning and yet it is a cinch that we shall fail to wake before it fails to rain.

# Living Up to Our Reputation

The Floral Association is getting considerable publicity and commendation for its work in keeping the Base Hospital at Camp Kearny supplied with flowers.

Now don't let this get outside our own little circle, but the fact is that only a few members of the Floral Association are doing any work or furnishing any flowers toward maintaining this very worth-while service.

The President of our Association, and the ladies on the committee have been very faithful in receiving the flowers and preparing them for the journey to the camp, but nearly all the flowers have come from people outside the Association.

Surely a great many of our own members have flowers which they could spare. It IS hard to pick them and get them down to the Street Railway office in the Union Building, and particularly so if we, ourselves, haven't a boy somewhere in the service who is constantly in our minds and hearts, making it possible for us to picture a hospital scene where a flower might come like a message from home.

Wouldn't it be fine if we Association members could give that faithful committee a genuine surprise, next **Thursday morning**, by appearing with arms full of flowers? (And then keep it up each Thursday thereafter.)

The Park Board, through Supt. Morley, has been very generous, sending down regularly beautiful cut flowers and greens to send out to the boys. Miss Rainford has contributed many blooms from the Flower Shop, and growers of flowers as far away as National City and Chula Vista have taken the trouble to bring in their blooms regularly, but the great majority of us who profess to want to spread a knowledge and love of flowers have overlooked this excellent opportunity to practice what we preach.

The flowers should be sent or taken to the office of the San Diego Electric Railway co., in the Union Building (where you buy your Coronado and Ocean Beach tickets) between the hours of 9 and 11, EACH Thursday morning.

G. K.

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Hydrangeas have been GLORIOUS this year, haven't they?

When you are riding about town, get off the beaten paths occasionally and you will run across some wonderfully beautiful and interesting gardens. A few cents worth of seeds and some real energy have almost worked miracles in many front and back yards right here in San Diego.

# The Lath House

*A. D. Robinson*

BY this time the tuberous begonias have given a serious sample of what they will do this season and indicated what they appreciate in the way of care. Because they have been advocated as a lathhouse plant some folks have concluded they like quite a lot of shade whereas the reverse is the case. When they are started under glass they should be placed on the low side near the glass and given sufficient room to insure a sturdy growth. The hanging varieties especially want lots of light and they do not do themselves justice unless allowed to hang. When staked up straight they remind one of a long thin collarless neck. Next month the tuberous will be out in the gardens in beds in Europe and parts of our Eastern States and some of the best I have seen in Southern California were grown on the north side of a house in the open. Frankly the writer must confess to guessing in remembering that spindly tuberous should be pruned back but the vitality of a good bulb is immense, as witness the almost immediate sprouting again of a tuber that has had the growth knocked off even when the latter was in full bloom. To secure a long blooming season all seed pods must be kept off and a weak liquid fertilizer be applied say about every third watering. When in full growth these begonias want lots of water but perfect drainage as well. Returning to these hanging basket sorts which are often called LLOYDII the original Lloydi being a soft pink of admirable form. They are growing now in San Diego in reds, orange, salmon, pink, yellow and white. The yellow form is a single flower and not the equal of the others though the foliage is darkly attractive. They should be hung high so as to look up at them. They will be very popular when better known but probably will suffer from the tendency of all tuberous begonias to drop their flowers when moved to different conditions or at sudden changes of temperature. They also hate drafts.

The Streptocarpus, or Cape primrose, is now in full bloom and the writer has just learned that they are easily propagated by planting the leaves. These should be generously planted. Their blooms are almost like Gloxinias in purples, blues, pinks and whites, and they flourish under lath either in pots or the ground.

With the warmer nights all the lathhouse livers are growing apace and daily watering is in order, preferably at night.

The Primula lovers are now potting up their seedlings. These like a shady cool place and to be kept moist. They bloom at a season when color in the lathhouse is wanted. Cinerarias also should start now. Don't forget the small bloomed Stellata. Where these were grown last year lots of seedlings will come up if the ground be kept damp and these do not deteriorate like most things in selfsowing. Don't forget leafmold when you go to the mountains. It is the cornerstone of success in the lathhouse.

San Diego has enough lathhouses now to have a cult and our soldiers should be offered a Fete Maison de Lath as well as Champetre. Our lathhouses are unique and their begonias need not fear comparison with any anywhere, but perhaps we ought to have a Spanish—let some scholar supply it the writer can not proceed beyond Casa.

I have the measurement of a single tuberous begonia flower before me taken from an outline tracing of it after it fell from the plant eight and one-eighth inches by seven and one eighth, this is the largest in a limited experience to date.

There has been an inquiry for names of the other tree ferns mentioned as possible lathhouse successes. Besides Australis there are five other—Alsophilas, Radians, Excelsa, Glauca, Rebeccae, Vangeertii; two Cyathea, Dealbata and Medullaris; four more Dicksonias beside Antartica, Fibrosa, Glauca, Squarrosa and Verschaffelti, and who or what was Verschaffelt anyhow to spread his name through so many plant families, and several Lomaria classed as tree ferns, though of comparative low growth. The Cibotium class has in addition to Schiedei four or five others—Barometz, Princeps, Regale and Spectabilis.

The helpful Bailey says Ambroise Verschaffelt with two little dots over the first ©, this for the pronunciation, was a distinguished Belgian Horticulturist, who flourished between 1825 and 1886. What happened to him after that can be guessed when it is added that he founded a horticultural periodical.

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### *RED CROSS GARDEN FETE*

The Pacific Beach branch of the Red Cross will hold a garden fete at the home of Mrs. F. T. Scripps, Braemar, (Pacific Beach), on August 3, from 2:30 to 10:30 o'clock. Tea and refreshments served. A very pleasant time can be spent at this beautiful spot. Come and bring your friends. Admission twenty-five cents. Transportation can be secured through the A. R. G. Bus Line, Offices at Third and E Streets.

# War on Garden Pests

*G. R GORTON*

The Thrip family is about as popular with the growers of both ornamental and commercial plants and trees as is the Hohenzollern family with most of the world outside its own "set".

The injury consists of a sort of chafing of the epidermis of the leaf or fruit attached as differentiated from the work of insects which are equipped with mouth parts which enable them to bite or suck. The leaves of plants infested with this pest are easily distinguished by the discoloration caused thereby, sometimes presenting a tarnished appearance upon the upper side, while the under side—upon which the pest usually works—presents the chafed appearance typical of this insect's operations. Probably the commonest species met with in vegetable gardening is the Bean Thrip (Heliothrips fasciatus) which works not only on beans, but upon a variety of other plants such as alfalfa, clover, lettuce, turnips and various other plants and trees, including Nicotiana glauca (California tree tobacco) and other natives. A common species encountered upon a large variety of ornamentals is the so-called Greenhouse Thrip (Heliothrips haemorrhoidalis) which is to be found upon Azalea, begonias, callas, crotons, viburnums, dahlias, fuchsias, etc. The most effective control seems to be the formula recommended by J. R. Watson of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, and is as follows (reduced to a "Kitchen Formula").

Commercial Lime-sulfur:
Commercial Lime-sulfur—24 fluid oz.
Black Yeaf "40" (Nicotine Sulfate)—¼ fluid oz.
Water—3½ gallons.

This solution, as a spray, should be applied to all portions of the infested plant, particular care being taken to reach the under side of the leaves. While the small hand spray pump of the sort commonly used for spraying of poultry houses will give good results, a better kill may ordinarily be expected from a type of pump which will exert from 150 to 200 lbs. pressure.

A common, though unloved pest of omnivorous habits is the Nematode Root Worm (Heterodera radicicola) more familiar under the name of the result of its work—Root Knot. Because of the fact that this insect is of such minute proportions—being practically invisible except under the microscope, the injury resulting from its attacks is sometimes regarded as a disease. Knots of varying size usually averaging smaller than a pea, are found in the roots of a great variety of plants. The term "in" is used advisedly, to distinguish the work of the nematode from the nitrogenous nodules which are on the roots of certain leguminous plants, and which reveal the fact that the nitrogenous nodules—which are beneficial to the plant and the soil—are attached to the root proper by a thread-like substance, whereas the knots resulting from the activities of the nematode are swellings of the fibrous roots themselves. Another form is common of certain vegetables having tuberous or fleshy roots such as potato, parsnip, carrot, etc., where the root assumes a somewhat warty appearance. Control is difficult, not always entirely successful, and varies according to conditions under which the infested plants are growing.

In greenhouses, control may be effected by removing the plants, where transporting is possible, and sterilizing the soil with steam under high pressure, or by saturation with formaldehyde solution in proportions of 1 part of 40% formaldehyde to 100 parts of water. The plants should be washed, the affected roots cut off, the tops pruned to correspond and the remaining root system soaked for half an hour in the formaldehyde solution before being replanted.

Under field or orchard conditions control is less simple and less satisfactory. Where it is possible, the infested plants should be removed, and unless valuable, it is better to destroy them. If it is desired to save plants or young trees which may be transplanted, the roots should be pruned of infested portions and immersed in the formaldehyde solution as indicated above. The soil from which the trees or plants have been removed should not be immediately used for trees or plants known to be host plants of the nematode, but rotation with non-host plants should be practiced for three years.

Application of fertilizers, such as kainite, which are high in potash content sometimes renders the plant almost if not entirely resistant to the attacks of the parasite, partly by increased strength of constitution which results from the fertilization, partly by the fact that the roots are stimulated to root deeply into the soil, below the level at which the pest usually works, and, according to some authorities—from a directly deterrent effect which certain commercial fertilizers have on the nematode itself.

It is obviously impossible to list all of the trees and plants which are susceptible to

*Continued on Page Twelve*

# Dahlia Show Sunday, August 18

Alfred D. Robinson

OF course everything just now is in anticipation of the Dahlia show and rumor has it that a Committee is struggling with the various problems its staging represents, the most difficult of solution being the working of growers up to the point of becoming exhibitors. In the good old days when most any half-worthy cause could go among our people and pick up a washbacket full of prizes ranging from a book that was hard of sale to a fifty-dollar check, growers would not bring in their flowers because they said they knew they could not win the prize, and now in these later times when real demands take every nickel and often one hundred and five cents of the dollar, the same folks still hang back saying there are no prizes for which to compete. Strange as it may seem to some, prizes are not the foundation either in their winning or losing of any honest to God show. Such is the basis of lotteries, not shows, which are primarily given for the people who neither show nor grow flowers and it may safely be said that the backbone of all the many shows given by The San Diego Floral Association are the faithful few who have always exhibited at very considerable expense of time and money and into the bargain have usually worked themselves to a frazzle helping others to arrange their much less important exhibits. So much off my chest, and I would not have unloaded had I not felt confident that the spirit of doing is strong today; that it will even extend to a dahlia show and bring out a record number of exhibitors.

Very few flowers are so susceptible of timing as the dahlia because of its large possibilities in numbers of blooms and its persistent shooting forth again from cut back stalks. It may be taken for granted that a dahlia in full bloom now a month ahead of the show will not give the finest blooms at the time wanted if it be allowed to produce a lot of flowers in the meantime. This does not suggest that all flowers should be kept off but that rigid disbudding be practiced and fresh shoots be encouraged from low down on the old stalks. Further, sufficient water must be given, a good soaking at least once a week, and some fertilizing either by watering through manure or in liquid form. A mulch is almost imperative these hot days and so the basin filled with strawy manure would seem the simplest solution. An overhead sprinkling at night is appreciated but there are varieties with thin petals especially white and delicate shades that will blight from this. It must not be overdone.

Returning to the timing idea, let us suppose a dahlia with six shoots that has not been disbudded and has several blooms full blown and so many buds that even a garden hog would expect his money's worth. I would cut back right to the ground, even under it, the three weakest shoots, then I would brace myself and start after those other three, cutting out all the side branches down to the last three pair of leaves, of course leaving on top a bud as well as the full blown flower, for this later has accomplished its mission and is due to come off in a few days. Now this should happen. The shoots below the disbudded areas will at once begin to push, probably an average of three on each stalk and thus present nine possibilities for the show. Some may be too early, some too late, but chances are good for one or more just on time. Bushes that have not yet bloomed but having buds showing color must be disbudded also but perhaps less rigidly. Some selected side shoots, already pushed a few inches, should be left. but the thing to keep in mind is that the full vigor of the plant must be preserved for the month ahead. Naturally no spent blooms must be left on, in fact cut all that come at their best and put in the house or give away. If the dahlia grew in the chrysanthemum time it would probably keep as a cut flower just as the mum would surely lose its reputation in this respect if it bloomed in our midsummer and to have dahlia blooms at this season keep at all they must be cut in the morning before the sun gets on them. If the stems are boiled or burned and the blooms packed away in damp paper they can be transported long distances. So far all methods fail with dahlias as cut flowers though the florists are sifting out certain varieties as florists sorts, such as Minnie Burgle. The same variety keeps well one time and wilts right off the next but I have fancied that it is useless to pick them directly after irrigating and certainly it is worse than that after early morning. Be it added for good measure that the evening is no good either and dahlias are not apt to recover when once wilted.

Once again let me urge you to exhibit at this dahlia show and remember you don't want a prize; you don't even want yours to be the finest flower there; you are going to do your bit just because we are learning that anything that is worth having is worth supporting and nothing of this kind is solely the other fellow's business.

# The Annual Meeting

ALICE M. GREER

THE annual meeting of the Floral Association was held on Tuesday evening, June 18th, at Thearle's Music Rooms, President Connell in the chair.

Mr. Connell gave a report of the Rose Show. The receipts amounted to $241.06. The expenses, not including the Park Board bill which was not yet rendered, amounted to $66.28, leaving a balance on hand, subject to the deduction of the Park Board bill, of $174.78. He maintained that from the standpoint of an exhibit the show was a success, but from the standpoint of number of exhibitors it was not.

Miss Rainford spoke of the comfort the men derive from the flowers sent to the base hospital at Camp Kearny. She had on hand two letters from the National Honor Guard at Washington. One a plea for the contribution of flowers, plants and tokens of cheer to the army posts and camps in the vicinity. The other a note of thanks and appreciation from Theodore Booth, President of the National Honor Guard, in reply to a letter of Miss Rainford's, telling of the work of the Floral Association, along this very line. Miss Rainford said there was a question as to the necessity of flowers at this time. There should be no extravagant expenditure in connection with them. At the same time they are often the only way of sending a message and giving the soldier a thought of his cherished home. There should be no extreme. Neither should they be omitted, for we need them.

A letter from Mr. Marston, commending the good work of the Floral Association and enclosing a check for thirteen dollars, was read.

In the absence of Chaplain Horene, Mrs. Greer spoke of the generous response of the public in sending flowers each week to Camp Kearny. Since February twentieth there have been sent each week on the average fifty-one boxes full.

Mr. Robinson led in a round table discussion on the necessity of the Association. He maintained that nothing which does not contribute to the war should belong in this day. But the Floral Association means something big. It does not mean simply gardening, and vegetables and flowers. It is a pioneer institution in this part of the country. It is endeavoring to bring here, something which will make the world a better place in which to live. It is a thing which looks into the future and towards a world in which everything except bare essentials will not be crowded out. In our greed today we have crowded out the soul, which must be fed and developed. This the Association is striving to counteract, in a small measure. So it must be held together. We must have a world in which such organizations as this can live. The men "over there" are looking to us to keep this country a different place from "over there". Everything that makes for this differentiation from Germany is good.

Mr. Keene spoke to the subject of Publicity for the Association. This centers around the flowers and the flower shows. In the past the Association has seen that prominent visitors in the city have been supplied with choice blooms from our gardens. This work should go on. Also excursions about our city gardens and home districts should be planned for our guests and soldiers. The daily papers are always glad to take and print views of our gardens of rare beauty and interest.

Mrs. Charles Darling spoke on a "New Departure". She said that to our great grandfathers work was life. That life was full of a knowledge of Nature and rather barren in the knowledge of books. Our grandfathers branched out from this. Then the city life came. The knowledge of book life increased and that of Nature decreased. Flower, fruit and vegetable knowledge decreased. Today all the world has gone mad over artificial things. That is life. Our flower shows came, but are being crowded back now by war and war work. Right now the work for the Association is a Junior branch. Each senior should take a squad of children to teach and instruct and should offer an inducement for the growing generation to study Nature and the things of mother earth.

Mr. Hieatt spoke on "Better Blooms". Thousands who grow flowers need the Association and can grow still better flowers than they do. He emphasized the need of a committee which should canvas at each show for growers for the next show, so that each person can be looking forward for months and plan for that event.

Miss Session spoke on the subject "As a Grower Sees It". She said the increased prices of transportation had come hard to the growers, so that it looked as if the time had come for San Diego to grow more of her own plants. In the vicinity we have only several small growers, as compared to the numerous ones in Pasadena and Los Angeles. The nurserymen from there comment

on the color and quality of our gardens and wonder why we do not make more of a point of them. Our wide range and variety and our adaptation for the growth of delicate plants are strong points for us. Miss Sessions is very optimistic in regard to the future of our florists. The opportunity for seed and flower growing may prove of great benefit to the returning wounded men. The merchants feel that the Association is a backer. If only for the encouragement given to those who earn their living in flowers the Association should exist.

Mr. Morley announced that word had just been received that the "Los Angeles" Rose had taken the grand prize in Paris. He was in favor of a Rose Show Committee, so everybody could prepare to exhibit and grow to perfection so as to be worthy of exhibition. A committee who has knowledge of growth and arrangement should have complete charge.

It was moved, seconded and carried that Mr. Morley, Mr. Bodie, and Mr. Fleming be rendered a vote of thanks for their very efficient help in connection with the Rose Show.

In response to the suggestion of a Flower Show Committee being formed, Mr. Connell asked that those willing to serve on such a committee, forward their names to the secretary of the Association.

The enjoyment of the evening's program was greatly enhansed by the rendition of a violin solo by Miss Sibyl Anderson and vocal solos by Dr. Jones; also some fine Victrola records through the courtesy of Thearle Music Co.

The election of members for the board of directors for the next year resulted in the following being elected:

Mr. L. A. Blochman, Mr. Stephen Connell, Mr. Guy L. Fleming, Mr. John Morley, Miss Alice M. Rainford, Mr. A. D. Robinson, Miss Kate O. Sessions.

During the counting of the ballots Miss Sessions spoke of the interesting specimens on exhibit, especially of a Regal Lily brought by Mr. Wilson. The bulb was sent from China in 1915. Of note was a new French Hydrangea; also a remarkable carnation of Mr. Robinson's and some native statice brought in by Miss Woodcock. Some fine hydrangeas formed the decorations.

Each member went home happy, carrying a seedling dahlia plant, a rare begonia or fern, and looking forward to giving a report of their growth at the next annual meeting.

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# The Vegetable Garden

(By Walter Birch)

BEING almost August again our present remarks will apply to that month and the time is good to prepare for the second addition to the summer garden or the opening of the fall campaign. A number of people keep the garden going in good shape during the spring and early summer, and then give it up until winter or spring, thereby missing the quick growing period of late summer, when the ground is thoroughly warmed up, and only needs the proper attention in the way of irrigation, fertilization and cultivation to get quick results. Of course hard clayey soils are not easy to handle at this time of year, and if you have that sort of soil you must mix in sand and well rotted manure to liven it up and keep it from baking. Wet all land thoroughly to a depth of three or four feet before spading it up, and in planting again plant something different to what you had before on the same ground. Where you had root crops plant crops that grow on top or above the ground and vice versa. By doing this you draw on different plant foods in the soil and help to keep the soil free from infection and disease. If your location is fairly high and warm you may plant most of the seeds you planted in the spring, as most of them will mature in the early fall or can be used during the winter. Plant early corn such as Golden Bantam, and put in some more beans such as Stringless Green Pod, Long Yellow, Six Weeks or Canadian Wonder. Also try a few more plants of Peppers and Egg Plant if your location is warm and some Stone and Earliana Tomatoes. You can still get Cucumbers white Bush Scalloped Squash, Carrots and Parsnips. About the middle of the month plant potatoes and peas. Be careful and try to get good seed potatoes, as a good many of those offered for sale are diseased, simply because it is a difficult matter for the seedsmen and dealers to procure good seed. Plant cabbage and cauliflower either seed or plants, and keep all surface cultivated fine as evaporation is great at this time of year. Shade tender young growth where possible, with lath frames that can be moved about are handy.

While insect pests are not usually as bad towards the end of the season as they are at the beginning, still one must be on the qui vive or they will get ahead of you. A combination spray of Bordeaux Mixture and Arsenate of Lead will get rid of most of your difficulties in the shape of fungi blight, rust or

*Continued on Page Nine*

# Pickings and Peckings

*By THE EARLY BIRD*

THERE have been broad hints that I stayed too long at home and readers would be glad to have me go afield, so last week I tried out my new flight feathers by a trip to a lathhouse just beyond the asphalt on Broadway (by the way is it Broadway past a certain house with an umbrella in the fountain). Twice before I have made this journey only to find nobody at home and the plants securely locked up. This time the special Providence to the wonders within was at home and explained that the locks were necessary as without them the plants unaccountably walked away, half a wonderful Glaucophylla Scandens begonia as far as Los Angeles. On previous visits I had glued my eye to every slot between the lath and learned that next time I must get in even if I had to break in and strangely it reminded me of a coyote which lived in my vicinity and coveted my chickens and one night an ill-advised rooster went to sleep on a plow handle near the fence. This proved too much for even the coyotes cautious nature and he tore off a couple of laths and had chicken for supper.

Most of my knowledge of Begonias, and this is mainly about begonias, is by proxy. I live awful close to an enthusiast, so don't hold me too closely to the book so to speak. I stepped inside that lathhouse and distinctly heard several kinds of laugh which must have come from the plants for my guide and her husband never even winked the other eye, and it entered or rather punctured my self-gratulation that the hilarity came from a host of plants that were catalogued by this section of me as too hard to grow under our conditions.

First, there were Rex Begonias that reminded one of well behaved established plants of rhubarb, not the winter blooming kind but the good old sort that grew over night so that you could sit in its shade the next day. Some of these plants must have been close to three feet across and had twenty-five or more leaves. They were in the ground and that was straight leaf mold brought back by the sack load Sunday after Sunday. No fertilizer, nothing but this medium preferred of the begonia family, and intelligent loving care. You know the nigger Jim in Huckelberry Finn with his pre-eminent association with witches that enabled him to silence all rivals with his query of "What you know about witches anyway?" Well, this lady is entitled to assume that position about Rexes. There is one with a spiral on the lobe of each side of the leaf that has been named, so I was told, both Queen Victoria and Countess Louise Erdody but even I know it was not either, perhaps it was both. I helped to secure to a stake a stalk of Coralie Lucerne that was bound for the roof sixteen feet high and had blooms so thick that it rivalled the composition of these everlasting bouquets now sold with your groceries. Most any kind of a begonia shot up as high as your head and gave one a feeling that if you did not get out quickly there was danger of being lost in the jungle and yet that is not a fair word for order of the finest kind persisted. Did you ever try and separate some of these closely related begonias so as to know them off hand when you met out walking such as Thurstoni, Ducharti and Haageana (no spelling guaranteed). I was given a lesson but before I left it had simmered down to a suspicion that in the segregation a shiny leaf and a red underskin with pimples formed identification marks but which was which I could not even guess. Then there are several Rubras mixed up with something like Agrostigma and here, again, spots play an important part. The pride of the whole collection is like the modest violet which grew deep in a mossy dell, it being the Glaucophylla (It is hard to have to spell that again when I feel pretty sure I don't know how to do it) Scandens, before mentioned as walking in part to Los Angeles when the door was not locked and the keeper away. This shyly creeps along the ground in the lee of other things and has a bloom that is much like Quiqualis Indica, in color pinky and white. It also brought to my mind a thing I never saw growing but which has haunted my romantic reading, the trailing arbutus. It is beautiful, rare and desired of all men, especially northern visitors, I did not annex a piece and you must not when you are introduced.

There is a fern climbing a post that I had hitherto known as an aenemic thing of a few inches called Acrostichum Scandens but now I shall give mine a post for this one had fronds over two feet and two spore bearing fronds much taller and more delicate. Doubtless in early days the parents of this fern sung it to sleep with the lullaby, "If you can't climb to fame climb 'a post'" and all this time my poor specimen and probably yours has been waiting for the post to climb.

When one encounters a thing done super-excellently it is normal to inquire the why and wherefore and poking my inquisitive

beak into everything I sifted the information and it brought back to these as the main factors in the shining success of this back-yard garden. First, a love of the things growing that made for intelligent and constant attention; second, an ingenious modification of conditions that provided shade in fractional proportion from full to very slight and the same with air and moisture; and thirdly, leaf mold. I would prescribe leaf mold for any ill of begonia or fern but it cannot be administered except the nurse attends to the case. It won't take the place of water, it won't shade from hot sun, nor shut off a draft.

I have said nothing except by inference of the lady who does these superlative things with begonias, etc. I don't dare to, she has a muscular husband who is afraid of nothing but her. Of course I am not really afraid but she says so little herself and won't admit that she has any special merit that I am not sure she will like even the little I have said in which case I apologize.

# The Flower Garden

By Miss Mary Matthews.

The July garden will furnish us abundant work if we are going to bring to perfection what we already have growing, and also prepare our ground for the winter's crop. Many things should go in the last of this month and through August, and the soil should be well prepared at this time.

Watsonias will do much better if transplanted now. If you are going to reset your Freesias, lift them now, divide and put them back in August. Keep the main shoots on your carnations pinched back. They should make bushy plants before they bloom. Chrysanthemums and asters will need daily care pinching back, lots of water for the mums, and asters will want disbudding and thinning of shoots. I have thought of late that asters furnish us one of the finest examples of the survival of the fittest that can be found anywhere. Do not forget to bring along those dahlia tubers which were given at the annual meeting. Some one of us may win the prize for the best novelty.

Cannas and gladiolus in borders will need lots of water and working of the soil. Be careful not to disturb the little feeding roots. Stocks, mignonette and forget-me-nots can all go in this month for early winter blooms, but it will require constant care to bring the little seedlings of any of the early bloomers through, for the time they are put into the boxes until they are large enough to transplant. A very good way is to sow the seed in boxes of well prepared soil and put wire netting over the top. Until the seeds are up, keep a newspaper covering over the netting. As soon as the seeds are through the ground take away the papers. Keep the seedlings moist by watering through the wire. In this way you are not so liable to drown them out. Make several sowings of each about two weeks apart.

This is also a good time to start your pansy plants. They also will require the best of care. Coleus, tuberous begonias and ferns should be in their prime now. Snails are very fond of both coleus and begonias. I saw a large, beautiful plant of coleus the other day where many of the leaves were in shreds. On lifting up the leaves nearly every one had a small snail on the under side. You will have to watch closely for the pests if you do not want your choice plants ruined. The begonias are very fine just now in the botanical building in the park. Some of the delicately colored ones are very fine. This is a good time also to study the tropical vines and shrubs, many of which are in bloom. Numbers of them can be planted at this season with good results. Eucalyptus ficifolia is also giving some very gorgeous blooms.

If anyone is going to grow the Roman hyacinth, or paper white narcissus, in quantity, they should go in not later than August. These, as well as the snowflakes will do well under shrubbery and will not object to all the moisture they can get from now on. Their resting period is very short.

## The Vegetable Garden

*Continued from Page Seven*

leaf eating insects, but as these sprays are equally poisonous to the human species which also preys on vegetables, care must be observed not to spray for some time before the vegetables are to be used, and they should always be washed. Other methods of protecting plants from the larger eating insects are to pick the pests by hand or knock them with a stick into a pan containing water on which a thin film of kerosene is floating. Insects collected by hand should be destoryed promptly.

"I U fast U beat U boats
If U feast U boats beat U."
—English Placard.

Wheatless days in America make sleepless nights in Germany.

# The July Meeting

ALICE M. GREER

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Frevert were host and hostess at the regular July meeting of the association. As usual their fairyland "back yard", with its rare collection of begonias, lath houses, glass house, arbor and pool delighted all present, and gave them a conception of the beauty and satisfaction of begonia craft. It was with difficulty that Mr Connell summoned the members from the twilight garden excursion to the indoor meeting.

The president reported as follows on the meeting of the Board of Directors held July first. The officers for the year had been chosen. Mr. Connell, President; Mr. Morley, Vice-President; Mr. Blochman, Treasurer; Miss Alice Greer, Secretary. A standing Show Committee having been considered a desirable and necessary thing, the following named persons were appointed with power to appoint such other persons as they desired upon the said committee. Miss Alice Rainford, Mr. A. D. Robinson, Mr. J. G. Morley. The following named persons were appointed to act as a program commttee: Mr. L. A. Blochman, Mr. F. A. Bode, Mrs. M. A. Greer, Mr. Guy L. Fleming.

Mr. Robinson reported for the show committee, who have under consideration the time and place for the annual dahlia show. August eleventh or a week earlier or later seems to be a favorable time.

Mr. Robinson urges all to take even a small part in the exhibit. There are many begonias in town. Individual blooms could be shown on moss the same as dahlias, in as much as San Diego can grow better begonias than any other place.

It was moved and carried that the whole question of the time and place of meeting be left to the show committee.

Mr. Fleming reported for the program committee and promised a very carefully worked out and printed program of the monthly and out of door meetings. These programs will carry with them a list of hints as to what and when to plant. A meeting, to which Camp Kearny men and officers will be invited, is under consideration. This will be held some time in the near future. Mr. Taylor's colored slides and a lecture by Mr. Robinson will be the features of the evening.

The paper of the evening on the subject "Cut Flowers for Winter Blooming" was in the hands of Mr. Bode, who maintains that flowers are as essential about a home as rugs and draperies; without them our dwellings would be mere refuges. Women should be able to raise cut flowers just as much as men.

Sweet Peas should be planted in September. Fresh soil is essential. That is sweet peas should never be grown two successive years in the same place. For winter blooming do not buy Spencer variety of seeds, but winter varieties. Good drainage is necessary. If manure is used it should be well rotted. The seed can be planted in pots and then planted out nine inches apart. Brush or Chicken wire is the best to use for a trellis. After the plants are well up a mulch should be applied. They must have irrigation between rows. In regard to irrigation, Mr. Bode advises that it be done in the morning, during the winter months, and in the evening, during the summer months.

If the buds on Carnation plants are pinched now there will be plenty of blossoms at Xmas time. A sprinkling of phosphate, in the trench before irrigating, will give intensity of color and strength of stems.

Pansies are not usually classed as cut flowers, but they make good cut flowers for a small bouquet. Their seed bed must have good care. The seed should be sown broadcast and irrigated with a light spray, to prevent washing. They should be kept quite moist but not wet. An ounce of seed should sow a sixty foot square. When transplanting place about twelve inches apart.

Reseed stocks beginning in September and ending in November. The Beauty of Nice, Princess Alice, and Snow Queen are all good varieties.

The annual larkspurs are good for winter blooming. They can be re-seeded from September to the end of the year, in several batches. They should be planted in flats or seed beeds and transplanted.

Snapdragons should be seeded in September or October for winter blooming. In order to have good flower stalks, let the center stem grow up and blossom and then pinch off for the benefit of the others.

Roses, Marguerites and Penstemon are recommended for winter cut flowers. Asters and Zinnias cannot be forced for winter blooms.

Miss Jones of the landscape department of the University of California, was a guest of the evening. She spoke of the fine gardens she had been visiting in Southern California and encouraged San Diegans to continue in their successful culture of vines, begonias, and palms which seem to excell in this place.

Mention should be made of the unusually beautiful dahlia specimens brought in by Mr. Robinson.

# Climbing Vines---Many Kinds

By FIDELLA G. WOODCOCK

Of the evergreen climbers now in bloom, perhaps the most conspicuous for profusion and beauty of flowers is Pandorea recasoliana the pink flowered bignonia that shows its beautiful strength in the supple way it has of climbing over available wall spaces.

On arriving at a point of vantage, anywhere from the ground up, it has a way of signalling, with a lovely cluster of trumpet shaped blossoms (perhaps not so brilliant as Bignonia capreolata, the more hardy American creeper now in bloom. Pandorea is a native of the tropics and in its own country is called the "Australian Bower Vine". Two of its forms with us are P-pilicioides, the fern leafed one and P-ricasoliana commonly known as Tecoma McKennoji.

Neither of these described forms have the richness of Phaedranthus (Bignonia Cherere) or of Pyrostegia venusta the flame colored winter bloomer. Still Pandorea looks well with its gentle suffusion of summer-time pink melting from the centre into the wide corolla. One of its species, Tecoma jasminoides is sometimes pure white with a dark centre.

Why the bigwigs of science have such a sincere regard for expressing a view-point by changing the accepted names of plants without asking the consent of the people, I suppose is their own affair in secrets botanical. But the old standbys are continually made over into later horticultural fashions, sometimes improved but frequently rendered confusing.

Some of the most interesting bignoniads are being treated in this way according to the colors and shape of the calyx mostly.

Bignonias are scarlet, orange, red.

Tecomas mostly yellow with exceptions.

Pandora, white or pink, or tinged with pink

Of these all the year around some one is in flower.

Winter: Pyrostegia venusta, (Bignonia venusta) Orange scarlet.

Spring: Bignonia unquis-cati (cats' claw) (Bignonia Tweediana) bright yellow.

Summer: Pandorea jasminoides, Pandorea ricasoliana.

Autumn: Cydista acquinoctialis.

Evergreen: Tecomaria capensis, Cape Honeysuckle of South Africa, Scarlet.

Most of the trees of the bignonia family are kindred to the yellow flowered Tecomas and are native of American southern countries. We have the Chilopsis saligna. Desert Willow and Catalpa bignonoides and Catalpa speciosa, Western Catalpa and Crescentia, the Calabash tree, in the native state. In the tropics the bignonias constitute vines of great length. Upon the development of the wood in the stem often in four transepts like a cross giving it the name of "cross-vine" depends the luxuriance of the flowers—"Bjucos de la cruz" the old Spanish people called it. In culture the bignonia has a tendency to develop large roots at the expense of the plant itself. Well cut and well aired by a free circulation of air among the branches the result is most pleasing. Superfluous branches should be cut and removed before the growing season begins, when all the branches should be shortened from 1 to 3 ft. according to their strength: this will throw the energy of the plant into the lateral buds which will produce flowering branches provided the previous season the wood has properly ripened.

1. Propagate by cutting in late Spring.
2. Insert in sand under glass.
3. Choose stout, short-jointed lateral growths for this purpose.
4. Carefully water until rooted in 6 to 10 weeks.

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# Dahlia Show Aug. 18

Sunday, August 18, is the date set for the Dahlia Show, which will be held in the California Building, from 11:00 a. m. until 5:30 p. m.

The premium list is being arranged to cover all forms of dahlias, and exhibits will be welcomed from a single bloom to collections. If you have one good dahlia bloom on the morning of August 18, you can be sure that there will be a class for it, and it is wanted at the California Building, Balboa Park.

There will be classes also for all Annuals in season, Begonias, Flowering Shrubs and Ferns.

This is to be a real test to prove whether or not San Diego flower lovers will go to a little personal trouble to help make these shows successful.

The admission fee will be ten cents, and as the show is to be open only a few hours, you will have to make careful note of the time or it will come and go before you realize it.

Many small exhibitors make good shows.
YOU should be one of the many.
Sunday, August 18.

# The California Garden

Alfred D. Robinson, Editor
G. T. Keene, Manager
Office, 945 Seventh St., San Diego, Cal.

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## AUGUST REGULAR MEETING

The August meeting of the San Diego Floral Association will be held on the evening of the 20th at the home of Mrs. F. J. Hruska, 4190 Palmetto Way, Mission Hills and the subject will be "Chrysanthemums". Mr. H. E. Sies will tell some of the things he has learned in the school of experience with this interesting flower. Take Mission Hills cars to Palmetto Way, and go to the first house north.

### PLANTING FOR CUT FLOWERS

Under this heading Balboa Bode delivered a truly B. B. charge at the last floral meeting and the following is taken from his notes: Before proceeding it is absolutely necessary to congratulate the Floral Association on B. B.'s advent on the stage. He is evidently full of real practical knowledge and what is more rare the ability to impart it briefly and clearly stepping on the accent points in a continuous passage.

Stocks seed should be planted from September to November in three batches and prayers be offered that the season be favorable. Plant in flats and prick out, never allowing a check. Soil for seed leaf mold screened and well moistened then seed sown on top and covered with sand, thus avoiding baking and keeping cleaner from algae and such troubles.

Centurea Imperialis and Hunnemannia sow seed middle of September, the latter preferably where it is to remain permanently.

Annual Larkspur end of September and October. The generally despised but ever useful Calendula, November 1.

Scabiosa any time.

Antirrhinum October and December and don't pinch out the middle shoot. It tends to dwarf all subsequent growth. These are subject to rust and should not be grown following years on the same ground, which advice is good for anything.

Schizanthus, August 25 to September 15. This makes an admirable cutflower and is of very easy growth. It should be sown in succession.

Pansies, sow seed in September. The requisites for success are the thorough wetting of seed bed before planting and never allowing it to dry; cover with sand after broadcasting, use a light spray, shading will be advisable. Plant out twelve inches apart in real rich soil.

Other recommendations were Marguerites, whites and yellows, which very unwisely have been allowed to lapse from favor, and Penstemons.

## Fighting Garden Pests

*Continued from Page Four*

Root Knot, inasmuch as there are believed to be something like four hundred and eighty different species and sub-species which are known to be the host plants of the nematode, but a partial list might prove helpful in planting in soils where the presence of the pest is known or suspected. The list comprised in part:

Soy Beans, Lima Beans, Beets, Cantaloupes, Burr Clover, Celery, Fig, Potato, Peaches, Pomegranates, Tomatoes, Cowpeas—all varieties except Brabham and monetta, Cucumber, Lettuce, Watermelon.

Certain plants such as asparagus, cabbage, onion, spinach, are less frequently attacked while certain plants are almost entirely immune, such as:

Barley, Corn, Milo and Kafir, Oats, Wheat, Velvet Beans, Cowpeas—Braham, Iron and Monetta. Nearly all grasses and milletts. Rye.

Rotating with one of the above crops or allowing the infested soil to remain idle for the period of three years is the method most highly recommended by the Department of Agriculture.

Spread of the pest is caused by cultivating tools and implements, on the feet, transplanted plants manure, etc., and by irrigation. By exercising care, it is possible to prevent spread by some of these means, at least.

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